

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

YRBS School-Specific Data

How do I interpret and use the YRBS data?

For questions related to the YRBS data, frequency distributions and graph comparisons contact Susan Court at 406-444-3178 or scourt@mt.gov

How do I print the YRBS: School-Specific data?

Printing instructions are noted in the Procedures Manual for YRBS: School-Specific Data. This can be downloaded from www.opi.mt.gov/YRBS, click on School-Specific Data, then click on Procedures Manual. If you encounter printing problems call Ron Nelson at 406-444-0500.

Will other schools or communities be able to view my school district's YRBS data?

No, the School-Specific YRBS Data site is only accessible through OPI's IRIS secure site. Access is gained through a password that is specific for each school district in Montana, thus preventing unauthorized personnel from viewing this information. An IRIS password for each school in your district has been sent to the district's central office – this allows you to view YRBS data for a specific school only. The IRIS password for the district will allow you to view the YRBS data for all schools within your district. Sharing of the password is at the discretion of the school district.

Does OPI have access to the YRBS School-Specific data?

OPI employees do not have routine access to the YRBS School-Specific data. In rare cases a school may not be able to print their own data (e.g. computer incompatibility) and may request OPI to print and send YRBS data to them. The district or school's YRBS contact person or superintendent may make this written request via e-mail to scourt@mt.gov.

Our district is not able to find our IRIS password – what do we do now?

For information regarding the IRIS password contact the OPI Help Desk at 406-444-3448. The OPI Help Desk will assist your district in obtaining another IRIS password.

What kind of YRBS data is available on-line?

YRBS data is available to your district in two formats. The Year Reports are available for every year your district participated (YRBS data is available for every odd-numbered year since 1993). Year Report Data is available in frequency distributions for each question asked on the YRBS. The Trend Data compares school district and statewide data for a selected group of questions from 1993 to the present. The Year Report Data and the Trend Data are available for each school within a district.

Where is there more information on the Montana YRBS?

The OPI web site www.opi.mt.gov/YRBS contains YRBS Statewide Reports, Trend Data (1991-present), Montana Regional Data, Montana vs. U.S. Comparison Tables and Special Reports.